

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 7 and 9 are cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1 and 10-16 are amended herein.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, and 10-28 are currently pending and under consideration in the present application.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-28 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(A) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER REILLY (USP# 6,427,164)

Claims 7 and 9 are cancelled herein. Claim 4 was cancelled in the previous response filed November 12, 2004.

The present invention as recited in claim 1 (as amended herein), relates to a mail system comprising "a mail storing section temporarily storing a particular e-mail, which is addressed to said old destination mail address, until said new destination mail address is registered by said mail address manager; and a mail sending section sending the particular e-mail to said new destination mail address when said new destination mail address is registered in said mail address manager."

Reilly teaches a system for automatically determining if the recipient of electronic mail that is unknown at the receiving server has left a forwarding address with a forwarding address server, thereby allowing either the receiving server, the sending server, or the sending user (computer system), or any other party to the communication, to automatically send the electronic mail content to the correct new address.

However, Reilly does not teach or suggest the features as recited in claim 1. For example, the Examiner argues that Reilly teaches the claimed mail storing section in column 4, lines 14-15. Here, Reilly teaches a method for automatically resending an electronic message originally sent to a receiving user at a first address that is now invalid to a second address for the receiving user, wherein the second address has been registered with a forwarding server (see column 4, lines 10-15). Different from Reilly, the present claimed invention teaches that a

mail storing section temporarily stores a particular e-mail, which is addressed to an old destination mail address, until a new destination mail address is registered by a mail address manager (see claim 1). It is respectfully submitted that Reilly does not teach or suggest the features recited in claim 1.

Further, Reilly teaches, “[t]o register with a forwarding server 300, all that is required is that a new address and an old address be submitted. Forwarding server 300 preferably stores new e-mail addresses in a table in association with old addresses.” Here again, the present claimed invention differs from Reilly because the address list of the present invention is used in, for example, a mailing list system and retains a plurality of destination mail addresses the particular e-mail is sent in one lump (see claim 16).

Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 28 depend from claim 1. For at least the reasons that claim 1 distinguishes over the cited prior art, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 28 also distinguish over the cited prior art.

Claims 10-15, 20, 22, and 26 recite, “a mail processing section processing e-mail data, which is contained in the e-mail from the mail source, into such a form receivable by the destination based on said system environment information of the last-named destination which information is stored in said system environment storage section,” which is neither taught nor suggested by Reilly.

Claim 19 recites, “a mail address manager managing the mail addresses of the destinations, said mail address manager being operative, in response to updating of the mail address of at least one destination, to register a new destination mail address in correlation with said old destination mail address” and “a mail sending section, responsive to receipt of an e-mail addressed to said old destination mail address, sending the last-named e-mail to said new mail address,” which distinguishes over Reilly.

Claim 21 recites, “registering, when the mail address of a particular destination has been updated, said old mail address of the particular destination and a new destination mail address in correlation with each other” and “sending an e-mail, which is addressed to said old destination mail address, to said new destination mail address if the last-named e-mail is addressed to said old destination mail address,” which distinguishes over Reilly.

Claim 23 recites, “a mail address manager for managing mail addresses of destinations and registering, when the mail address of a particular destination has been updated, said old

mail address of the particular destination and a new mail address in correlation with each other” and “a mail sending section for sending an e-mail, which is addressed to said old mail address, to said particular destination at said new mail address,” which distinguishes over Reilly.

Claim 27 recites, “a mail address list in which a mail address or addresses of one or more destinations are registered or to be registered” and “a mail address rewriting section which rewrites, upon receipt of a notice that an mail address of a particular destination registered in said mail address list has been updated, the last-named address of said particular destination into a new mail address,” which distinguishes over Reilly. Claims 24 and 25 depend from independent claim 27 and are patentably distinguishing over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons as claim 27.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

III. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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